Media Ground Rules for Coverage of Combatant Status Review Tribunals
Office for the Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants (OARDEC)
U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

1. Ground Rules - The United States Department of Defense will do its utmost to keep these proceedings open and available for media members to cover. In order to facilitate maximum access consistent with security requirements, the following Ground Rules have been established.

These ground rules are necessary to ensure protected information such as classified information, intelligence collection capabilities, and sources and methods are not compromised and to protect the security of tribunal participants by preserving anonymity.

Failure to comply with these ground rules could result in the removal of the parent news organization from further participation and could subject the News Media Representative (NMR) to criminal prosecution.

By signing this document, a NMR is agreeing to abide by the following restrictions:

a. To not publish, release, discuss or share information identified by Tribunal personnel as being Protected Information or otherwise protected from disclosure by these Ground Rules.

(1) Protected information includes: (i) information classified or classifiable pursuant to reference (d); (ii) information protected by law or rule from unauthorized disclosure; (iii) information the disclosure of which may endanger the physical safety of participants in commission proceedings, including prospective witnesses; (iv) information concerning intelligence and law enforcement sources, methods or activities; or (v) information concerning other national security interests.

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b. The Tribunal President will order closed sessions when Protected Information is planned to be discussed. During closed sessions no media will be in the hearing room.

c. Board deliberations will be closed the media.

d. If Protected Information is inadvertently disclosed during a session, the Tribunal President can order a media embargo until the status of the information is determined.

e. No audio, video recordings, photographs or other electronic images, or drawings, sketches or likenesses may be rendered of proceedings or their participants from either in the hearing room or the adjacent observation room.

f. Tape recorders, telephones, computers, photographic or any other type of electronic or imaging equipment may not be brought into the hearing room. Writing materials are permitted.

g. The identities of all tribunal personnel will not be reported or otherwise disclosed in any way.

h. The identities of detainees will not be reported or otherwise disclosed in any way.

i. Interviews with Office for the Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants (OARDEC) Forward Commander, and the OARDEC Forward Chief of Staff are permitted, however, these individuals will be identified by rank, position and military service only. These interviews will be arranged through the Office for the Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants (OARDEC) public affairs representative. "Man on the street" interviews must be approved in advance while at Guantanamo.

j. Photographic coverage of detainees in and about the detention facilities, or groups in the detainee facilities, may be permitted by the camp commander, subject to security requirements and the following restrictions: News media coverage of detainees, including photo, video, and audio, will not be authorized when it identifies individual detainees, by name(s) or images (i.e., close-up images of individual face(s) that would allow individuals to be identified). Audio coverage of detainees can only be used if included as background in interviews or coverage from extended distances. Media will be responsible for screening their own video, photo, and audio coverage of detainee(s) to ensure they comply with these guidelines. Public affairs officials will be available to assist in reviewing if required.

k. Coverage of detainees in transit, including movement between detention facilities and Tribunal hearings is not authorized unless specifically approved by the on-scene public affairs officer.

l. Short-term embargoes may be imposed when necessary to protect security.

m. All tribunal observers must wear appropriate attire. Generally, casual business attire is appropriate for civilians. Examples of acceptable casual business attire include: long-pants, collared shirts with sleeves, and covered-toe shoes. Inappropriate attire would include, but is not limited to, the following: shorts, sleeve-less shirts (tank tops, halter tops, etc.), denim jeans, T-shirts, mini skirts, any accessories or other clothing attire with political slogans, sneakers or tennis shoes, and sandals. Individuals wearing inappropriate attire will not be permitted to observe proceedings.

n. No distractions are permitted during hearing court sessions to include, but not limited to: talking, eating, drinking, chewing gum, standing and stretching, sleeping, or other disruptions.

o. Entering and exiting the hearing room when a hearing is in session will not be permitted.

p. Tribunal observers are not permitted to interact with hearing participants either during hearings or breaks in the proceedings. Tribunal participants include: the Tribunal President, panel members, recorders, personal representatives, detainees, witnesses, guards, court reporters, translators, and other personnel assisting in the conduct of the tribunal.

q. News media may request interviews by submitting requests to the OARDEC public affairs representative.

r. No more than 3 observers will be permitted in a hearing room at one time. All other observers can watch proceedings from the adjacent observation room. 2 seats will be reserved for news media; if the 3^{rd} seat is not occupied by a non-media observer a 3^{rd} NMR can take the seat. Lots will be drawn among participating outlets to assign hearing room seating, and a rotation will be established.

2. Agree to Abide - Media representatives must agree to and sign the Media Ground Rules for Coverage of Combatant Status Review Tribunals prior to being allowed to board military or military contracted transportation to GTMO.

Failure to follow these ground rules and instructions issued by the OARDEC public affairs representative may result in restricted access on GTMO, removal from the installation and revocation of press credentials.

By signing this document, the NMR is agreeing to abide by these restrictions.

If additional information is required contact the OARDEC Public Affairs at (703) 697-7391.

Please sign the following, acknowledging that you have read and understand these ground rules and limitations. Each reporter must provide the information below by fax to (703) 697-8921. The original signed documents will be collected prior to departure for Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Reporters cannot cover military commissions without providing a signed copy of this document prior to departure.

Name________________________________ Affiliation ___________________________

Position____________________________ Work Phone ___________________________

Cell Phone ___________________________ Fax ___________________________

Social Security Number _______________ Date of Birth ___________________________

Passport Number ____________________Place of issuance ________________________

Emergency Contact Information (Name & Phone):

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I understand and will comply with the ground rules listed above. I also understand that the U.S. Government assumes no liability or responsibility for my personal safety.

News Media representative
(Signature) ____ (Date)_____________

Bureau Chief or Editor
(Signature) ____ (Date)_____________